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enforced, which may render the subject powerless against criminal tentatives. He realizes that souvenirs which are effaced in the waking state may be revived by new hypnotization. Even days after they are suggested to them, hypnotic subjects may commit crime for which they should be held irresponsible, and for which the suggester alone should be punished. Courts should not have power to hypnotize witnesses to obtain from them confessions, or testimony against others. This should apply to all civil acts, wills, etc. If a victim of a crime, or an accused person, however, demands the test of hypnotism for himself, it may be granted under certain specified conditions. It is recognized that to certain persons in a state of apparent waking, suggestions of acts may be effectively given. This, of course, is a point of great importance in criminal practice. No one should be hypnotized save in the presence of witnesses. Hypnotization is the discovery, not the creation, of the capacity of being morally and mentally vivisected. This work contains references to many interesting legal cases.

*De l'origine des effets curatifs de l'hypnotisme, étude de psychologie expérimentale.* J. DELBOEUF. Paris, 1887, 42 pp.

After visiting the Salpêtrière, and experimenting much himself, this observer, whose admirable work on dreams had qualified him to express an opinion, attempts to explain hypnotism as a therapeutic agent as follows: Commonly, the organism and tissues under the influence of the great sympathetic system of nerves are withdrawn from the action of the will. The hemispheres do not normally interfere with the functions of the non-striated muscles, the vasomotors, glands, etc., or at least if they interfere their role is complicated and obscure. This was not always so. As we descend the animal scale toward protoplasm, organisms were sensibly affected by all that passed within them as well as on their periphery. With the division of work, and the development of the senses charged with expanding external relations with all that could help or mar the integrity of the individual, and other organs of attack, defense, etc., the internal management was committed more and more to a servant which consciousness had trained till it could be trusted to act for itself. The life of relations thus absorbs attention from vegetative functions. In the hypnotic state, however, the subject may violently withdraw from the external world and all his energy is directed to any suggested point. If any internal function has fallen out of order, the higher brain forces can be turned on to it, as an object long neglected but not all unknown, and often with the best curative effects.

*Force psychique et suggestion mentale.* Dr. CLAUDE PERRONNET. Paris, 1886, 72 pp.

The author, who is a professor of philosophy, holds that the best register of undulations produced in the periphery of the body by the action of thought, is a subject who has been hypnotized and deprived of personal dreams. He would replace the theory of fluidism by that of "undulationism." He has hypnotized 423 patients suffering from nervous diseases, six-sevenths of them women. Of this total number, 288 were essentially improved by mental suggestion. Catalepsy, hysteria, migraine and epilepsy were most often helped, and in this order.

*Les suggestions hypnotiques, une lacune dans la loi.* F. DELACROIX. Paris, 1887, 47 pp.

The reform for which this magistrate pleads is summed up in the new legal provision he proposes, viz : 1. No one shall practice hypnotism unless he be a duly authorized physician, and be assisted by a second physician especially licensed upon this topic. All public exhibitions of hypnotism, save in schools and laboratories legally chartered, should be forbidden. 2. All infractions of this article shall be punished by imprisonment of from six days to two years, and by a fine of from 16 to 2000 francs, or by one of these alone.

*Le magnétisme animal.* Dr. F. BOETLY. 2nd ed. 1886, 292 pp.

The author writes in the atmosphere of the Salpêtrière. His book is probably the best presentation of the whole subject in its space, which is much less than that occupied by Binet and Féré. There are slight experimental and critical additions.

*Du sommeil provoqué chez les hystériques. Essai d'explication psychologique de ses causes et ses effets.* A. ESPINAS. Bordeaux, 1884, 29 pp.

The initial cause of induced sleep in hysterical subjects is the exhaustion of the higher centres by excitation. In normal persons the nervous elements contain a considerable quantity of force *en tension*. In hysterical persons the quantity of this force in each nervous element is small. In the case of normal persons, peripheral excitations which tend to set free the nervous force *en tension* meet with a strong resistance when they reach the higher centres. The higher centres act as centres of arrest by checking the movements which the peripheral excitations would produce if they were permitted to reach the motor centres. In hysterical persons, on the other hand, the excitations which exceed a certain degree of intensity do not meet any resistance from the higher centres in their passage to the ideomotor centres, and therefore these excitations set free the nervous force in the ideomotor centres. Thus because of the small quantity of nervous force, the higher centres are easily exhausted and the peripheral excitations are left unobstructed. The exhaustion of the activity of the centres of ideation causes a diminution, if not a suppression, of all sensorial or cutaneous sensibility, and this in turn produces a diminution or suppression of consciousness. According to Professor Espinas, then, that which makes hysterical individuals subject to hypnotism is the weak condition of the higher centres which are easily exhausted, and which diminishes consciousness according to the degree of exhaustion. C. A. O.

After witnessing the hypnotic exhibitions of Señor Das, at the Spanish court, in January of this year, the *Hann. Cour.* reports that Queen Christine is said to have completely hypnotized a young lady of the court who showed remarkable powers of clairvoyance, if the detailed report can be relied on. After rousing the young lady, the Queen asked Señor Das if the power to excite magnetism resided in all persons, and was told that it slumbered in all who had irresistible power of will and perfect concentration of thought. The Queen then desired to be hypnotized, but although the strongest means were tried for some time, the Queen was not only unaffected, but seemed to